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Guide To

# ILLINOIS STATE BUILDINGS

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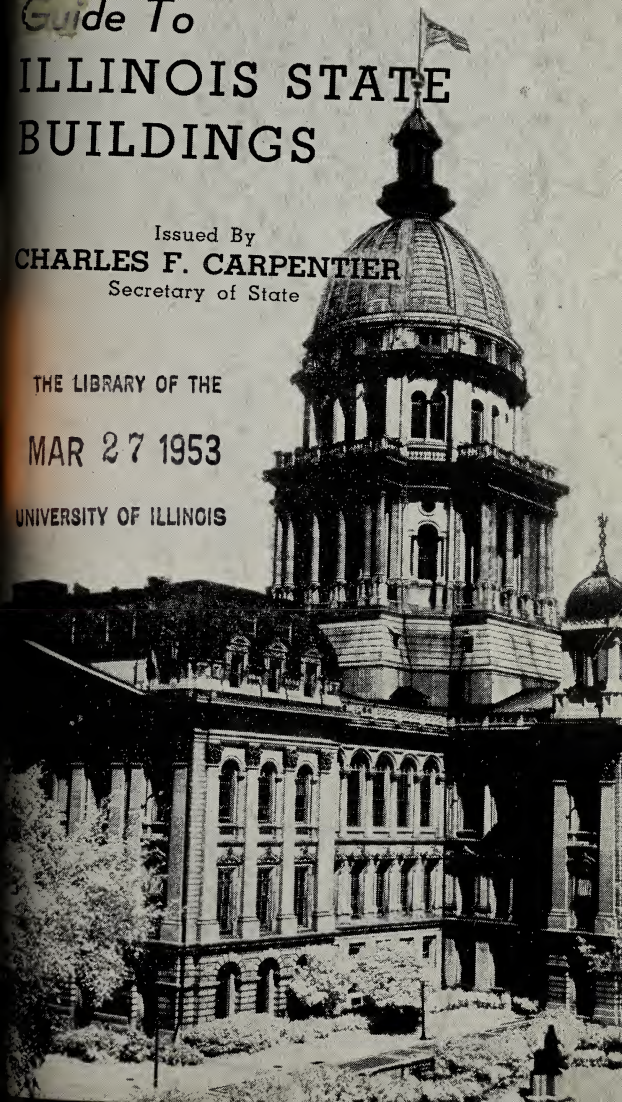
**CHARLES F. CARPENTIER**

Secretary of State

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**CHARLES F. CARPENTIER**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**



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## Preface

The primary purpose of this booklet is to serve as a guide in pointing out to the public the more important points of interest relating to our magnificent Capitol and to provide information concerning the State's buildings, monuments, statues and paintings.

A deeper appreciation and sentiment is attached when these splendid buildings and works of art are viewed with a historical understanding of how they became a part of our heritage.

With this thought in mind, I have included in this booklet a brief outline of the growth and movement of Illinois Government from the modest rented State House in Kaskaskia of 1818 to the Capitol group of buildings here in Springfield.

It is hoped that the booklet will prove helpful not only to Capitol visitors but to students and historians as well.

**CHARLES F. CARPENTIER**

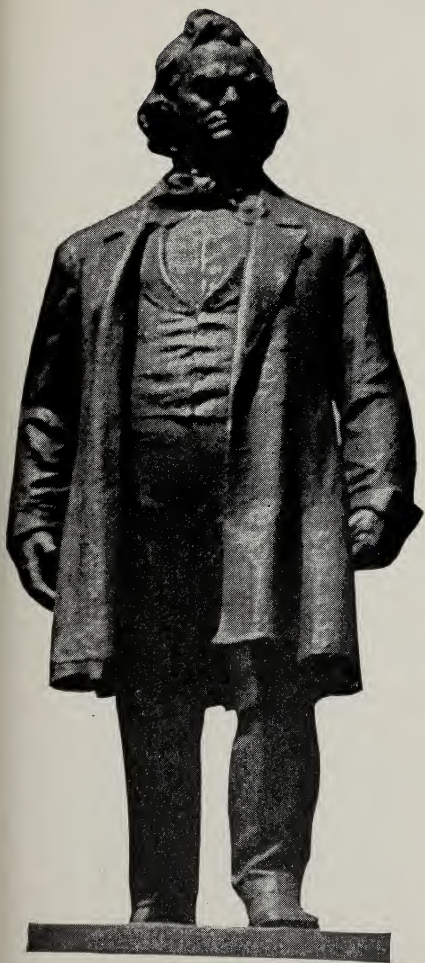
Secretary of State

# ILLINOIS — THE STATE C



Abraham Lincoln statue in the State House grounds.

# LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS



Stephen A. Douglas statue in the State House grounds.

# History of Illinois Capitols

ON December 3, 1818, Illinois became the twenty-first state to be admitted to the Federal Union and the more than a century and a quarter that has passed since that historic day has provided Illinois with three seats of government and six Capitols.

Illinois' first State Capital was Kaskaskia, a thriving community of French origin, which had played a prominent role in early middlewest history. This little city and Shawneetown were in 1818 the most important settlements in the territory.

Situated on the Kaskaskia River, in what was later to become Randolph County, Kaskaskia was founded in 1703, when the Jesuits were transferred there from the Illinois Indian Mission at Des Peres (present St. Louis).

In 1778, George Rogers Clark and the little army of Virginians that accompanied him captured Kaskaskia from the British and made it a part of the County of Virginia.

When Illinois territory was created by Act of Congress in 1809, Kaskaskia became the territorial Capital and nearly a decade later on January 16, 1818, Nathaniel Pope petitioned Congress for Statehood for his adopted territory. The Congressional Enabling Act admitting Illinois to the select company of States was duly passed and Illinois became a part of the Union on December 3, 1818.

## First Capitol Was Rented

The first Capitol or State House was a rented two-story limestone building. The lower floor was occupied by the House of Representatives and the chamber above by the Senate. Appropriations made to cover the cost of this building for the first two sessions of the General Assembly of the State as well as the Constitutional Convention of 1818 were as follows:

"To George Fisher for use of three rooms of the house during the present and preceding session, \$1.00 per day; also for the use of one room during the session of the Convention, \$2.00 per day."





Symbolizing Illinois' welcome to the world, the above bronze statue stands in the rotunda of the Capitol. The statue commemorates the work of Illinois women at the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The bronze was first exhibited at the fair and later placed in the Capitol.

Meeting in this small building, the first General Assembly composed of 13 Senators and 27 Representatives petitioned Congress for a grant of land to serve as a site for a new Capital. This request was granted and a committee of five was named to choose a site. They selected Reeves Bluff, later to be known as Vandalia, which was then a heavily wooded tract 80 miles northeast, up the Kaskaskia River from Kaskaskia.

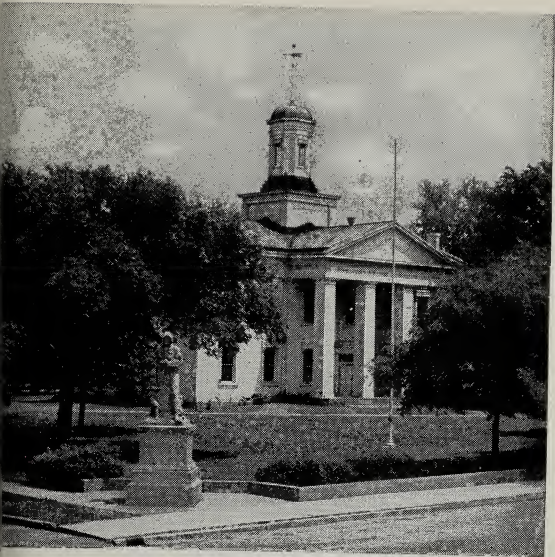
Removal of the Capital to Vandalia was caused by land speculators who thought they might profit by starting a land boom in some new location.

### **Kaskaskia Deteriorates**

After Vandalia became the Capital in 1820, Kaskaskia deteriorated, gradually disappearing under the waters of the Mississippi River which lapped its shore. In 1881 the river went on one of its many rampages, changed its course, moving eastward and then southwest to find its old channel. This action created an island



First State House of Illinois at Kaskaskia. The building was rented and served as a Capitol from 1818 until 1820 when the seat of government was moved to Vandalia, the second capital of the State. Due to the encroachments of the Mississippi at its junction with the Kaskaskia River the building was completely destroyed in the Spring of 1898.



re House at Vandalia. This was the third building at Vandalia be used as a Capitol. The first was destroyed by fire, and the ond torn down to make room for the building of this edifice an attempt to prevent the shift of the capital from Vandalia Springfield. After the move the building became the Fayette County Court house but is now State property.

l washed away, a considerable portion of the ancient ital. Each recurring spring flood encroached further on the site until the last vestige of Kaskaskia slipped o the Mississippi.

On the remaining portion of the island is a farming munity of about 131 persons and it still bears the ne of Kaskaskia, perhaps to perpetuate in memory little Capital which lies beneath the murky Missis- si.

### **First Vandalia Capitol of Wood**

The original Capitol at Vandalia was a two-story den building, with one big room on the ground floor the House of Representatives, and two rooms on the ond floor which were used by the Senate and the ncil of Revision. The Secretary of State, Auditor

and Treasurer occupied rented offices detached from the Capitol.

The first session of the Second General Assembly met in the first Capitol owned by Illinois on December 4, 1820, and during its sitting passed an act making Vandalia the seat of government for the next 20 years.

On December 9, 1823 fire destroyed this first State-owned Capitol. During the summer of 1824 a new building was constructed of wood and cost \$15,000. Soon thereafter agitation was started for the removal of the Capitol to a site nearer the geographical center of the State. This sentiment caused the General Assembly to pass an act in 1833 whereby the voters at the following general election could decide the location for a new Capital city.

The sites on which the vote was to be taken were Vandalia, Jacksonville, Springfield, Peoria, Alton, all the State's Geographical center. Alton received the greatest number of votes but the margin was so small as to be inconclusive, and the vote was not announced officially as it would undoubtedly have been rejected by the next General Assembly. So the suggested removal from Vandalia was dropped until the 1836-37 session revived the question.

### **Lincoln Suggests Springfield**

Matters then took a very different turn for the proposal was interesting a rising young lawyer known as Abraham Lincoln who represented Sangamon County. Lincoln introduced a bill providing for removal of the Capital of Illinois to Springfield, and he was backed by eight fellow members who with him were known as the Long Nine because their aggregate height was 54 feet.

Residents of Vandalia were determined that they should retain the capitol so in the summer of 1836, without authorization, and while the legislature was recessed they tore down the old Capitol. In its stead they erected a State House costing \$16,000. This gesture, however, was in vain for with the return of the General Assembly Lincoln was successful in having Springfield named as Illinois' new Capital.

On February 25, 1837, the Assembly passed an act providing that the Capital be moved from Vandalia to some place nearer the center of the State and three months later—February 28, 1837—Springfield was chosen as the new Capital City. Because of the Act of Assembly in 1820, Vandalia was to continue as the Capital until December 1, 1840, but on June 20, 1839, Governor



Thomas Carlin issued a proclamation that all State records be removed to Springfield by July 4, 1839. However, the State Government did not actually function in Springfield until December, 1839.

The Eleventh General Assembly returned the Van-  
dia Capitol to the county of Fayette and the city of  
ndalia, and the old State House still stands, but once  
in is State property.

The cornerstone of the State's fourth Capitol was  
l at Springfield on July 4, 1837. After many delays  
building finally was completed in 1853 at a total  
t of \$260,000, double its original estimate.

The building occupied the center of the square nearly  
ee acres in extent, and was constructed of cut stone  
ught from a quarry six miles away. The building  
x 15 years to complete but was considered one of the  
itectural wonders of the State.

### **Springfield Site of Famous Speech**

This building is rich in Lincoln associations. After  
coln became a resident of Springfield in 1837 he was,  
course, one of the regular frequenters of the State  
se. In addition to serving in the legislature he ap-  
ed and argued cases before the Supreme Court,  
ted in the edifice, and made frequent use of the  
e and Supreme Court libraries. In this building he  
took public issue with Douglas, here he made his  
ous "House divided against itself" speech, here were  
headquarters during his 1860 campaign for the Presi-  
y, and here finally his remains rested on May 4,  
before burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

### **Present State House Planned in 1867**

Illinois continued to prosper and gain in population  
soon it was apparent that a much larger Capitol  
l be needed. The enabling act was passed by the  
General Assembly on February 24, 1867. This was  
fifth of the buildings owned by the State and the  
use today.

When the new Capitol was completed, the old Cap-  
as sold to Sangamon County for \$200,000. Certain  
tions were made to this old building, the most  
kable one being that of raising the massive two-  
structure off the ground and building under it,  
it was suspended, what now is the ground floor  
Sangamon County Court House.



The building shown above was the State's fourth Capitol, which was later sold to Sangamon County for a Court House, after the present State Capitol was constructed. Certain alterations were made to the building, the most remarkable being that of raising the entire structure and building under it, while it was suspended what now is the ground floor of the Court House (below).



Ground was broken for the present Capitol, March 11, 1868. Formal laying of the cornerstone took place October 5th of the same year. Still unfinished, the building was first occupied in 1876. Twenty-one years after the Legislature first authorized its construction, the building finally was completed. Originally construction costs were limited to \$3,000,000, but before completion expenditures amounted to more than \$4,500,000.

### **Rich Coal Vein Under Capitol**

The present Capitol, situated on a nine acre plot, is in the form of a Latin Cross. The circular foundation, 12½ feet in diameter, upon which the vast dome rests, is 25½ feet below the grade line, based on solid rock. It is interesting to know that many feet below runs one of the richest veins of Illinois coal.

The walls supporting the dome are 17 feet thick from the foundation to the first story. They are built of granular magnesian limestone from the sonora quarries of Hancock County.

The outer walls of the superstructure are of Niagara limestone, that of the lower stories from the quarries of Joliet, and that of the upper stories from Lemont.

The extreme length of the building from north to south is 379 feet, and from east to west 268 feet. The height from the ground line to the top of the dome is 61 feet, and to the tip of the flagstaff 405 feet, the highest building in central Illinois. This led to the choice of the State House dome for the installation of the red beacon which glows throughout the night as a guidance for aviators. In 1949 the beacon was equipped with an electronic "eye" which turns the lights on when visibility reaches a certain low—day or night. It used to operate on a clock device which turned the lights on in the evening and off in the morning, making no provision for foggy or overcast days.

# Guide to Illinois Capitol

**THE OFFICES** of the Springfield Capitol, which is under the custody of the Secretary of State, are grouped on each floor about a rotunda which rises to the great dome. On the first floor facing toward the east and in the center of the building is a bronze figure representing Illinois welcoming the world to the Columbian Exposition of 1893 (illustrated on page 7). This figure was in the Illinois building at the Exposition and was afterward presented to the State by the women of Illinois.

Radiating from this central figure are four corridors leading to various State offices. In the east corridor is the Public Health central office. In the west is the Department of Public Works and Buildings general office and the Department of Conservation offices. In the north are the offices of the State Treasurer, of the Banking Department of the State Auditor, Public Assistance office of the State Auditor, and the central offices of the Insurance Department.

In the south corridor are the offices of the Department of Registration and Education, the Department of Labor, the Secretary of State's office of supplies and its shipping department. Close by is also a United States Post Office.

On the second floor in the east corridor are the offices of the Governor and the Secretary of State. In the reception room of the Governor's office are hung portraits of deceased former governors of Illinois. In the anteroom to the Governor's office are the pictures of the living ex-governors. The office of the State Budgetary Commission is located at the extreme east end of the corridor.

## **Lewis, Rainey Portraits**

A portrait of the late Congressman Henry T. Rainey of Carrollton, Ill., Speaker of the House of Representatives at Washington at the time of his death August 1, 1934, hangs on the east wall beside the entrance to the Governor's Reception Room. He served as representative from the 20th District from 1903 until the time of his death with the exception of one term. The portrait is the work of Hans Schlereth. A painting of the late United States Senator James Hamilton Lewis by the eminent artist Louis Betts has been hung in the rotunda of the Capitol.

Opening from the west corridor of the second floor are the offices of the Automobile Department of the Secretary of State.



f State and also the offices of the Department of Mines and Minerals.

Off the north corridor are the central offices of the Auditor, the Banking Division of the Treasurer and the central office of the Department of Finance. A First Aid Station is located at the extreme north end of the corridor. In the south corridor are the offices of the Secretary of State's Index, Securities, and Corporation Departments, and the offices of the Department of Public Welfare. The office of the Index Department was formerly the Supreme Court and possesses a beautifully decorated ceiling.

### **House and Senate on Third Floor**

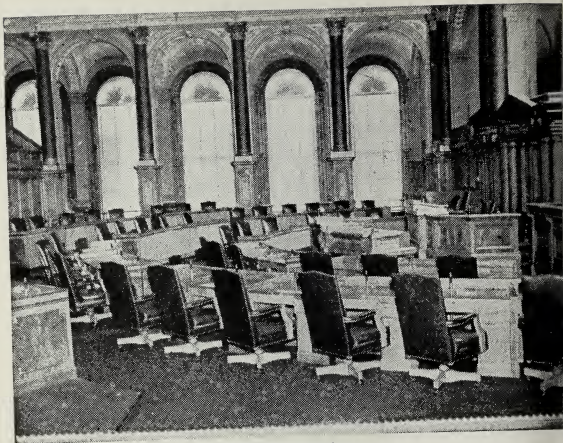
On the third floor of the Capitol are the chambers of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House being on the south and the Senate on the north side. Back of these two chambers are the offices of the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor, respective presiding officers of the House and Senate, also committee rooms and lounges. On the third floor is also found the Legislative Reference Bureau, an important legal library to aid legislators in the drafting of bills, and the Legislative Council which aids assemblymen to plan future legislation.

The Senate and House Chambers were recently re-decorated, the Senate in a scheme in which light tan and gold predominate while the House is in light green and gold. The legislature meets in regular session from January through June in odd-numbered years. During session visitors are admitted to the galleries which are reached from the fourth floor. On the fifth and sixth floors are various offices, among them one of the shipping departments of the Public Health laboratories.

### **Fine Marble Decorates State House**

The walls of the rotunda and the corridors are mosaic work in vari-colored marbles. The walls of the rotunda in the first and second stories and at the base of the dome's arches as well as the arches themselves are of solid stone faced with Bedford blue limestone and Missouri red granite. The grand stairway leading from the second to the third floor in the west wing of the building is constructed of various kinds of solid marble, as are also the columns, balusters, arches, rails, balusters and wainscoting.

The polished columns in the third story of the rotunda are of Missouri red granite with bases of blue

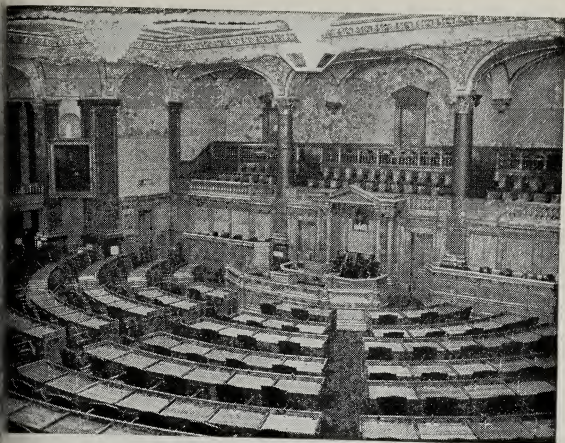


Senate Chambers.

granite and rich foliated Tuckahoe marble. The wall is decorated with the scoting of the corridors of vari-colored marbles, domestic and imported including white Italian, Alps green, Lisbon, Glen Falls, old Tennessee, and Concord, is artistically constructed and the work is highly esteemed for its beauty and durability.

Mural decorations and statuary are used conspicuously throughout the Capitol. Most frequently inspected by visitors are the murals of the north and south corridors on the first floor. They represent events and scenes closely connected with the history of Illinois, such as old Fort Chartres on the Mississippi, Starved Rock, old Fort Dearborn, New Salem in Lincoln's time, General Grant taking command of the troops at Cairo during the Civil War, Marquette at Joliet in conference with Indians, and Governor Cook liberating his slaves on his way to Illinois down the Ohio River. These murals were not executed by any well known artist but resulted from a contract with a decorating company many years ago. While they are inaccurate their value lies in the fact that they are part of our storied past.

At the head of the first landing of the grand stairway is a huge painting representing Col. George Rogers Clark effecting a treaty with the Indians in 1778 at Fort Mifflin after he had captured it and forever ended British occupation. One of the figures in the foreground is supposed to represent the great pioneer Daniel Boone.



House of Representatives.

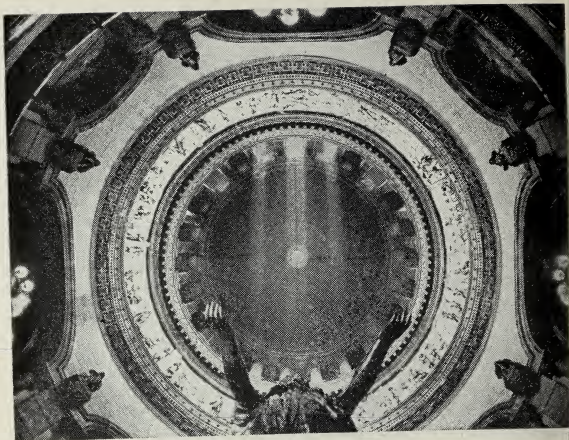
On the second floor in the east corridor, adjoining the Governor's and the Secretary of State's offices, are panels of feminine figures representing allegorically War, Peace, Art, and Literature.

In the niches about the second floor rotunda are statues of Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Governor John Wood (1860-61) and David E. Shanahan.

Mr. Shanahan served 42 years in the General Assembly, and was Speaker of the House five times.

### **Eight Huge Bronzes Near Base of Dome**

High upon the walls of the rotunda on pedestals near the base of the inner dome are heroic bronze casts of eight prominent in the civil and military history of Illinois. These are: Ninian Edwards, governor by appointment and appointment during the entire territorial period, and first governor of the State; Shadrach Bond, first governor; Ward Coles, second governor; Sidney Breese, justice of Supreme Court and U. S. senator; Lyman Trumbull, U. S. senator; U. S. Grant, Commander of all the Union armies at the close of the Civil War and President of the United States; John A. Logan, Major General of Volunteers during the Civil War and afterwards U. S. senator; and William Morrison, eminent as a statesman and jurist.



Frieze In Capitol Dome.

Still above these statues and just at the base of the inner dome is a series of allegorical and historical plaster casts painted to have the appearance of bronze. One panel may be identified with certainty and this illustrates one of the Lincoln and Douglas debates. The remaining panels represent pioneer life in Illinois, but the identity of most of the figures remains questionable. Early accounts of the Capitol reveal the fact that the panels were not in accordance with the author's order.

In the north corridor on the second floor is hung an oil painting of Lincoln and Douglas at an open air debate at Charleston. On the third floor in the south, north, and east alcoves, respectively, can be seen allegorical murals representing Industry, Commerce, and Agriculture.

In the House Chamber hang oil paintings of Lincoln and Douglas, while at the rear of the Speaker's rostrum both the House and the Senate are paintings of George Washington.

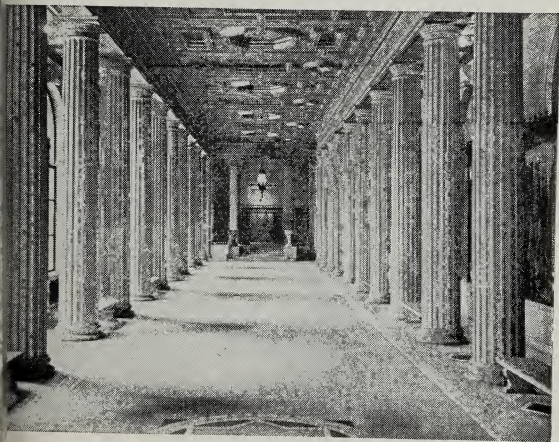


# The Centennial Building

The Centennial Building, shown on the back of the booklet, commemorates the hundredth anniversary of the admission of the State to the Union. The cornerstone was laid October 5, 1918, and the building completed in July 1923 at a cost of \$3,000,000.

The northwest corner of the land on which the building stands is the former site of the home of Ninian Wirt Edwards, son of Gov. Ninian Edwards. Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd were married in his home and Mrs. Lincoln died there in 1882, seventeen years after the President's assassination.

The exterior of the Centennial Building is of limestone. Names of prominent Illinoisans are inscribed in frieze near the top of the structure on all four sides.



Memorial Hall.

Just inside the two main entrances is Memorial Hall which the flags of Illinois regiments are on display. The hall is 154 feet long and 41 feet wide. The interior walls are of Mankato while the ceiling is decorated in gold leaf. Missouri marble and Mankato stone are used in the floor pattern.

On the first floor of the Centennial Building, in addition to Memorial Hall, are the offices of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Commerce Commission. On the second floor are various State offices.

### **Libraries and Lincoln Room on Third Floor**

On the third floor are the public service departments of the State Library, the State Historical Library, and the Lincoln Room. The Illinois State Library at the west end serves state officials, private individuals, clubs and local libraries. It houses almost 1,000,000 items, including books and bound periodicals, documents and pamphlets, pictures, recordings and current periodicals.

The Historical Library and the Lincoln Room at the east end of the third floor are filled with the most detailed information on the history of our State together with valuable relics of the martyred President. Through the efforts of the Historical Librarian, the State Historical Society, and private donors, the collections in this Library are constantly being added to and form the fountain head of information for research students in every phase of State history.

The Illinois State Museum on the fifth floor is one of the most interesting places to visitors. In the natural habitat are shown the large animals once common to Illinois, the birds of the state as well as many foreign specimens, mineral, fossil, and archaeological collections, also ethnological exhibits of Indian, Philippine, and African material.

In the art gallery are permanent and circulating exhibits by contemporary artists and craftsmen and a fine collection of Oriental Art.

### **Centennial Auditorium Seats 800**

In the annex of the main building is an auditorium which seats about 800 people. On the third, fourth, and fifth floors of the annex are the offices of the State Highways Division. In the basement are various offices, the Court of Claims, and the Collections Unit of the State Library which handles loans annually of books to schools, and non-library communities throughout the State.

# Archives Building

WEST OF the Centennial Building is the Archives Building housing the Archives Division of the State Library, completed in 1938 at a cost of \$820,000. Designed by the State Architect, the new building matches the Centennial Building architecturally except for modification that had to be introduced because of its functional purposes.

This building is the third of its type in the United States, the two others being at Washington, D. C., and Annapolis, Md. The cornerstone was laid on March 30, 1936, and the building formally taken over by the Secretary of State in January, 1938. While the present structure is 153 feet long and 67 feet high it has been designed and placed on a plot which will allow extension to four times the present capacity. It is the first unit of the Illinois State Library building.

## **Provides Unusual Protection**

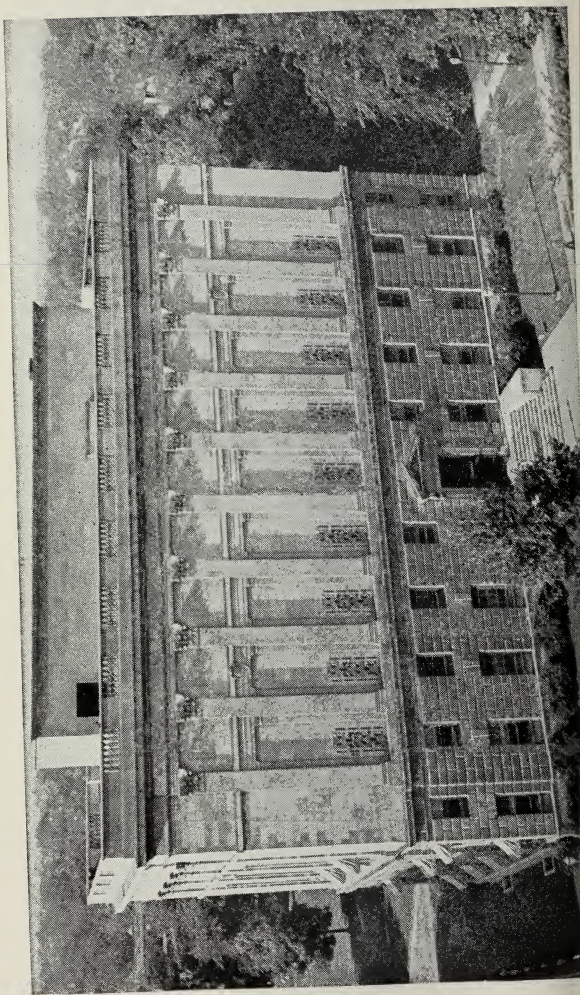
The new building protects the State's valuable records from loss, tampering, and such physical hazards as fire, damp, excessive heat, and vermin. State records, here and elsewhere, have been destroyed in the past because of lack of such protection.

Present capacity is for 140,000 cubic feet of records. Because of this enormous mass the building is carried on caissons sunk 35 feet to bedrock. Like the Centennial Building, it is constructed of solid masonry faced with Indiana limestone. Windows show on the first two floors only on the north, east and west fronts, while third floor windows are concealed behind ornamental stone grills, which, with a row of pilasters, form the decorative design of the facade.

## **Fifteen Miles of Steel Cabinets**

There are no windows to any of the vaults with their 15 miles of steel filing cabinets. These vaults occupy the center rear and upper floors. The building is connected by tunnel to the Centennial Building and Capitol.

The rooms open to the public are the Lobby, Museum, Reference Room, and the public Catalog Room on the first floor; and another lobby, intended for exhibits, and the Archives Administrative office on the second



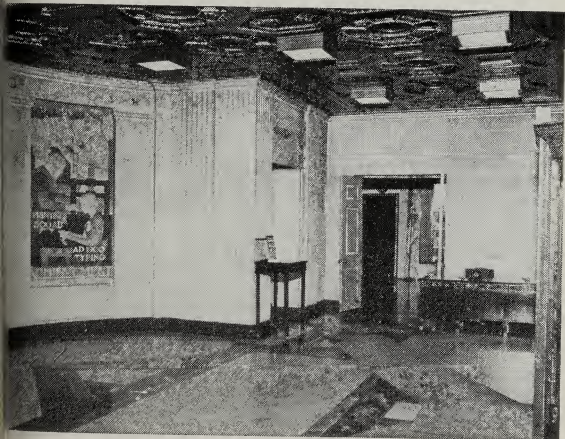


floor. These public rooms are in the center, north, and west sides of the building. The public is not admitted to floors above the second.

Workrooms occupy the basement and part of the first, second and third floors, some of these being a photographic laboratory, and a special Receiving Room where incoming documents are cleaned and fumigated before being admitted to the upper floor vaults.

The public rooms show the Williamsburg influence in woodwork and colors. The first floor lobby has Joliet stone walls, a patterned blue and gray marble floor, and an ornate polychrome ceiling with a bronze coat. Facing the bronze and glass entrance is an alcove with a sculptured stone triple panel brilliantly colored by a new process. Above this mural is a gold inscription "Archives of the State of Illinois," and below another which reads "The Records of Human Achievement."

Bronze is used decoratively for stair rails, lighting fixtures, radiator enclosures, and elevator doors. The star motif is used frequently in floor insets, lighting fixtures, radiator covers, and door studs. The double elevator doors on the first floor symbolize "Asylum," "Charity," "Defense" and "Security," while those on the second floor symbolize "Legislature," "Unity," "Court," and "Equity."



Lobby of Archives Division Building.



To the right of the first floor lobby is a Museum, decorated in Empire style with a white panelled wainscot and dark green upper wall, with gold and black accents. Two sets of double doors lead into the Reference Library.

### **Modern Fire Protection Installed**

The Reference room and the first and second floor conference rooms are panelled from floor to ceiling in knotty pine of Georgian design, with appropriate brass and glass chandeliers and side wall lights. The furniture is mahogany in Chippendale style.

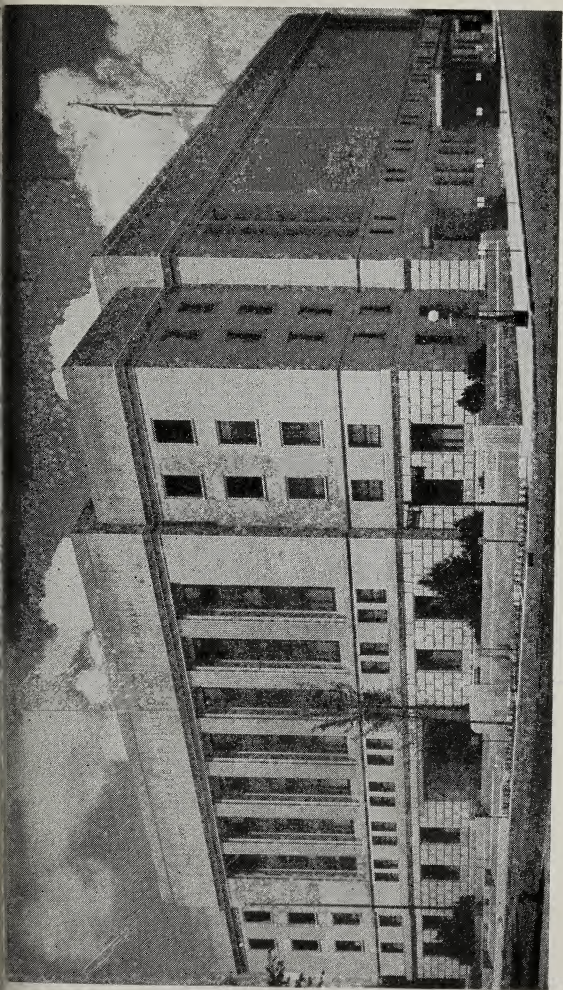
The Public Catalog Room has an ornate ceiling of cream color trimmed with gold and red, and chocolate brown walls. Built-in reference tables and light maple card cabinets make this one of the building's most striking rooms. The building also houses the Safety Responsibility Division on the east first floor, and the Driver License Division on the east second floor.

Smoking is prohibited throughout the building, but to further guard against fire, a fire alarm system of the latest type has been installed so that at no time may any harm come to Illinois' historic records.

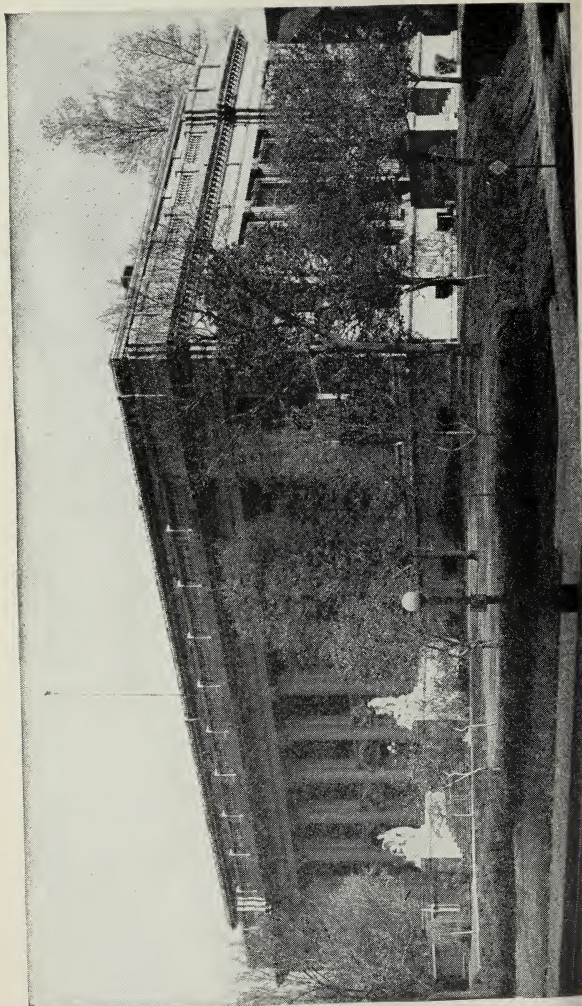
## **Armory and Office Building**

NORTH OF the Capitol, on the same site where once stood the old Armory destroyed by fire in 1934, stands the State Armory and Office building. Its nucleus is a large auditorium (seating capacity approximately 6,000), and drill hall around which are grouped sundry offices, entrances to which are on the north and south ends. On the East Monroe Street side are offices for the Bureau of Criminal Identification under the Department of Public Safety, the general offices of the Illinois Public Accession Commission, the Department of Public Safety, the Division of Correction, the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Fire Inspection, and the Division of State Inspection and the Division of Standards, both under the Department of Agriculture.

On the East Adams Street side of the Armory are housed the offices of the Adjutant General and his Military and Naval Department. On the upper floors are the offices of the Division of Central Accounting, Purchase and Supplies, and Budget, all of which are under the Department of Finance. The Divisions of State Parks and Memorials, Division of Printing, Architecture and Engineering, and the U. S. National Park Service



State Armory and Office Building.



NORTH FRONT OF ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT

are also housed on the East Adams Street side.

In the basement is the Division of Multigraphing, a rifle range, shower rooms, and vaults for storage for various State offices.

## Supreme Court Building

THE BUILDING occupied by the two highest Illinois courts at the southeast corner of Second Street and Capitol Avenue, facing the State House, is regarded as a true rendition of classic architecture. The act authorizing its construction was passed in 1905, and the building dedicated in 1908. The appropriation for the building totalled \$500,000 and the structure was completed within this sum.

On the first floor are the offices of the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the Clerk of the Appellate Court, while the east half of this floor is occupied by the Attorney General.

The second floor is of monumental proportions and finished in dark mahogany. At its end is the State Law Library. Along the north front are the Court Room and conference room of the Supreme Court. On the south side is the Court Room of the Appellate Court.

The third floor is devoted to living quarters for the Supreme Court justices while in session.

The Supreme Court is the highest State court, consisting of seven judges, one from each of seven districts. The office of Chief Justice is held in turn by different members, and in order to decide any case four judges must agree.

In a few cases the Supreme Court may exercise original jurisdiction. In general, however, it is a court of appeal either from the Appellate Court or directly from the Circuit and County courts. Its decision is final except in instances where a State law may be shown to conflict with a Federal law.



# Tunnels Connect Buildings

A NETWORK of tunnels connects all buildings with the exception of the Supreme Court. The first tunnel to be constructed was the one under Monroe Street, connecting the power plant to the Capitol. This tunnel served for many years as a duct for heat pipes and water mains. Ever increasing need for heat and water taxed the tunnel's capacity and in 1931 a new and much larger one was constructed. It is more than 500 feet long and enters the Capitol under the east wing. All plumbing except the lawn sprinkling water main was transferred to the new tunnel. The old tunnel is not used at all—only a water main is in for a short part of the way and the tunnel is sealed on the north end.

When the Centennial Building was erected a tunnel was constructed to connect that building with the Capitol. This tunnel is more elaborate and is partitioned down the center. One side houses plumbing pipe and a freight tunnel and the other provides an all-weather pedestrian passageway between the two buildings.

Connecting this main tunnel is still another which provides basement entrance to the Archives building.

A new tunnel from the old plant to the new plant at Klein & Madison, also connects to the west end of the Capitol Building. These tunnels are used for piping only. A small tunnel for pipes also connects to the Supreme Court Building and to the tunnel which connects the Capitol and Centennial Buildings.



# Guide to Statues on State House Grounds

Five distinguished pieces of statuary dot the east front of the Capitol. They represent Lincoln, Douglas, Menard, Yates, and Palmer, all of whose lives deserve close study by the sons and daughters of Illinois.

## **Abraham Lincoln Statue**

This monument to the Great Emancipator illustrated on page 4 was dedicated on October 5, 1918 on the same day as the laying of the cornerstone of the Centennial Building, the date being the hundredth anniversary of the first sitting of Illinois' First General Assembly. The sculpture is the work of Andrew O'Connor and was unveiled by Lord Charnwood, one of Lincoln's best known biographers. On the rear of the granite slab which forms a background for the statue is inscribed Lincoln's eloquent Farewell Address to Springfield on the occasion of his departure for Washington to serve his first term as U. S. President.

## **Stephen A. Douglas Statue**

This splendid likeness of the "Little Giant" shown on page 5 was dedicated on Oct. 5, 1918 at the same time as the Lincoln statue. It cost \$25,000 and is the work of Gilbert P. Riswold, a pupil of Lorado Taft. From an artistic point of view it is one of the finest of the Capitol grounds monuments. The bronze seems almost alive in its virility. It shows Douglas in the later years of his life in the act of making one of his stirring addresses.

As an orator, lawyer, and politician Douglas in his short life became one of the most noted figures in Illinois history. He was born on April 23, 1813 at Brandon, Vermont, and came to Illinois in his early manhood to follow the legal profession. Appointed a state's attorney in 1835 he resigned the same year to enter the legislature. He was then appointed Secretary of State in 1840 by Gov. Thomas Carlin but resigned in the following year when elected to the State Supreme Court, resigning his post in turn to enter Congress in 1842. He served several terms in the House and was thrice U. S. Senator for Illinois. Douglas died at 48 in Chicago on June 1861 during his third term as Senator.

## Pierre Menard Statue



Pierre Menard statue in the State House Grounds.

Pierre Menard, a native of Quebec, came to Vincennes in 1787 at the age of 20 and established himself as a dealer in furs and pelts. In 1791 he moved to Kaskaskia where he resided until his death in 1845. As he flourished in business he came to play an important part in the political life of the community. Almost universally beloved because of his honesty and generosity he came to be President of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Territorial General Assemblies, and from 1818 to 1822 served as our first Lieutenant Governor.

Menard's statue was the gift of Charles Pierre Chouteau, of St. Louis, son of one of Menard's earliest business associates. John H. Mahoney of Indianapolis, was the artist who executed the work. The committee which chose the design consisted of E. B. Washburne, Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, Secretary of State Henry D. Dement, Ninian Edwards, and Joseph Gillespie. The statue, dedicated on June 10, 1888, was cast by the Hallowell Granite Co. of Hallowell, Maine, and is a good likeness as it was obtained from an oil painting belonging to a member of Menard's family living at St. Genevieve, Mo.

## John M. Palmer Statue

John McAuley Palmer, thirteenth governor of Illinois, was born in Kentucky of a line of distinguished Americans originally settled in Virginia in 1861. In 1831 Palmer and his father left Kentucky for Illinois because of their strong anti-slavery principles, a cause which was largely responsible for the future governor's close friendship with Lincoln and Yates. Palmer had a distinguished career



as a soldier, lawyer, and politician. During the Civil War he was active in recruiting regiments and rose to the rank of general. Besides being governor he served in the U. S. Senate and in 1896 was candidate of the gold Democrats for the Presidency. Palmer's bronze memorial is the work of Leonard Crunelle.

John M. Palmer statue in the State House grounds.

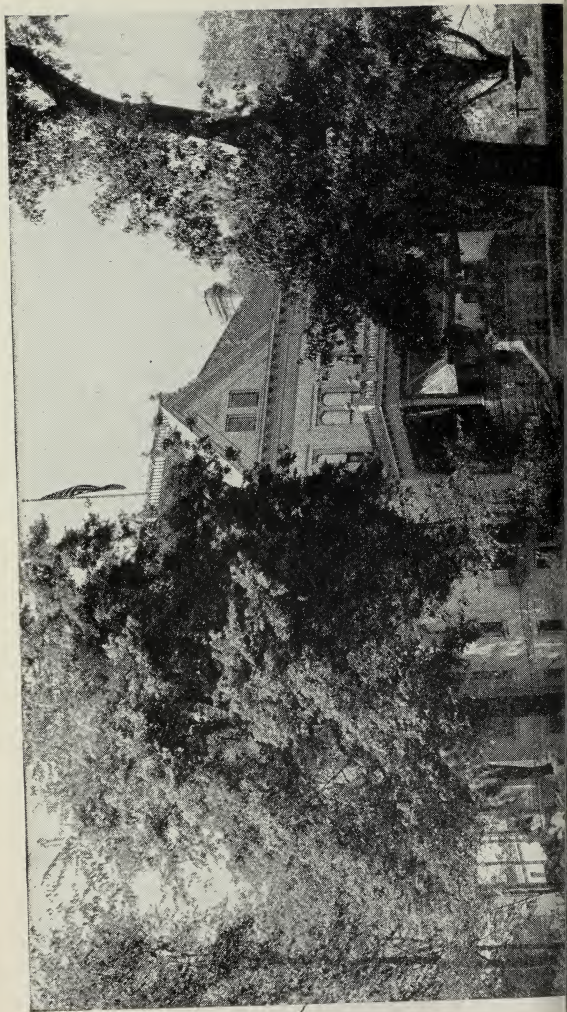
### Richard Yates Statue

The statue to Governor Richard Yates, Civil War Governor of Illinois, is the work of Albin O. Lasek, and was dedicated with that of John M. Palmer on October 1, 1923.

Gov. Yates was largely instrumental in winning Illinois' support of Lincoln for the Presidency, and must be given much of the credit for Illinois' enlistment of 259,147 men during the Civil War. After his governorship Yates served one term in the U. S. Senate.



Richard Yates statue in the State House grounds.





# The Executive Mansion

SITUATED ON a beautifully landscaped knoll on Jackson between Fourth and Fifth Streets is an imposing white brick structure—The Executive Mansion, official home of Illinois Governors since 1856.

From the time the Capital was moved to Springfield in 1839, until the present Mansion was built in 1856, the Governors lived in a house on the northwest corner of Eighth and Capitol Avenue (then Market Street).

The first official act of the General Assembly looking towards the erection of the present Governor's Mansion was approved in 1853. The General Assembly in that year voted to construct an official residence for the Chief Executive and passed an appropriation of \$15,000. A commission composed of the Governor, the State Treasurer and the Auditor was appointed to purchase a site for the new residence. The commission also was authorized to sell the house and lot then occupied by the Governor and apply the proceeds of the sale to the \$15,000 already appropriated. The home was sold for \$2,680. However, the fund was found to be insufficient and in February, 1855, the Assembly voted an additional sum of \$16,000 to complete the structure, thus making the total original cost of the Mansion \$33,680.

In January, 1856, Governor Joel A. Matteson and his family moved into the newly completed structure, thus becoming the first Governor to occupy the Mansion, which since then has been the home of every Illinois Governor and the scene of many historical and colorful events.

Many times the original cost of the building has been expended upon the Mansion since its construction, as nearly every General Assembly has appropriated varying sums for improvements, such as repairing, remodeling and refurnishing.

The Mansion contains 28 rooms. The offices of the Governor are on the ground floor. On the first floor are the reception rooms and the State Dining Room. In the latter room hangs an interesting picture of Edward D. Baker, Congressman, prominent Whig, and friend of Lincoln. This picture was painted by an unknown artist and purchased by Lincoln. Lincoln's second son who died at an early age was named for Baker.



# Springfield and Lincoln

Beside the County Court House described earlier in this booklet, and the Lincoln Home and tomb, Springfield is rich with places directly associated with the Great Emancipator. Bronze memorial tablets are at the following places:

Site of Speed's General Store, 107 South Fifth St. Above this store Lincoln shared a room with Speed in 1837.

Site of Stuart and Lincoln's Law Office (1837-1841), 109 N. Fifth St.

Site of Logan and Lincoln's Law Office (1841-1844), 203 S. Sixth St.

Site of Lincoln and Herndon's Law Office (1844-1865), 103 S. Fifth St.

Site of the Globe Tavern, 315 E. Adams. Here Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln lived until May 2, 1844 and here Robert Lincoln was born.

C. M. Smith Building, 528 East Adams. In a room on the third floor of this building Lincoln wrote his first inaugural address in January, 1861.

Former site of Illinois State Journal, 116 N. Sixth St. Here Lincoln received the news on May 18, 1860 of his nomination for the Presidency.

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# Lincoln Home and Tomb

The only home which Abraham Lincoln ever owned is maintained by the State Division of Parks as a museum and is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The house is at the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets.

No visit to Springfield is complete without an inspection of Abraham Lincoln's Tomb and Monument. It is located in Oak Ridge Cemetery about two miles north of the Capitol and easily reached by road or bus.

The tomb was dedicated on October 15, 1874 but in 1930-31 it was completely reconstructed on a plan by and with the supervision of State Architect C. Herrick Hammond. The tomb as it was before reconstruction was an imperfect memorial compared to the splendid shrine it is today, a dignified and beautiful tribute to the man who "Belongs to the Ages." The exterior of the tomb was left unchanged, but the interior extensively remodeled.

# New Salem State Park

Anyone interested in the history of Lincoln and his adopted state will be irresistibly attracted by the superb reconstruction of his first Illinois home, the village of New Salem in New Salem State Park near Petersburg, about 20 miles northwest of Springfield.

The first active step toward recreating New Salem came in 1906 when William Randolph Hearst bought the site and transferred it in trust to the Old Salem Hautauqua Association. In 1918 the land was transferred to the State of Illinois. The cornerstone for the first of the reconstructed buildings, the Berry-Lincoln Store, was laid November 17, 1932.

The only original building in the village is the Astor Cooper shop. It was built in 1834, moved to Petersburg in 1840, and returned to New Salem in 1922 by the Old Salem Lincoln League.



CENTENNIAL BUILDING

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262  
682  
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PAUL POWELL  
*Secretary of State*

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# CAPITOL GUIDE



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## *Preface . . .*

THIS BOOKLET "Capitol Guide", as the title implies, is primarily a guide to the many centers of interest in our magnificent Capitol group of buildings. The pamphlet also provides a brief history of Illinois' Capitols, and outlines the growth and movement of the Seat of Government from the first small rented statehouse in Kaskaskia, in 1818 to the resplendent present State Capitol in Springfield. It is my wish that the pamphlet will prove helpful and interesting, not only to Capitol visitors, but to students and historians as well.

*Paul Powell*

Secretary of State



**PAUL POWELL**  
**Secretary of State**

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*Paul Powell*

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# History of Illinois' Capitols

BY PAUL POWELL

Secretary of State

ON DECEMBER 3, 1818, Illinois became the twenty-first state to be admitted to the Federal Union. Since that historic day, Illinois has had three capital cities (Kaskaskia, Vandalia and Springfield) and six Capitols.

Illinois' first State Capital was Kaskaskia, a thriving community of French origin, which had played a prominent role in early middlewestern history. This little city and Shawneetown were in 1818, the most important settlements in the Territory. Kaskaskia was founded in 1703, when the Jesuits were transferred there from the Illinois Indian Mission at Des Peres (present St. Louis).

In 1778, George Rogers Clark and the little army of Virginians that accompanied him, captured Kaskaskia from the British and made it a part of the County of Virginia.

When Illinois' territory was created by Act of Congress in 1809, Kaskaskia became the territorial Capital and nearly a decade later on January 16, 1818, Nathaniel Pope petitioned Congress for Statehood for his adopted territory. The Congressional Enabling Act admitting Illinois to the select company of States was duly passed and Illinois became a part of the Union on December 3, 1818.

## Illinois First Capitol was Rented

The first Capitol, or State House, was rented. It was a two story brick building. The House of Representatives occupied the lower floor and on the floor above was the Senate Chambers. Meeting in this unimpressive setting, the first General Assembly composed of 13 Senators and 27 Representatives petitioned the Congress for a grant of land to serve as a new State Capital. The request was granted and a committee of five was named to choose the site. They decided upon "Reeves Bluff," later to be known as Vandalia, which was about 80 miles northeast on the Kaskaskia River from Kaskaskia.





First State House of Illinois at Kaskaskia. The building was rented and served as a Capitol from 1818 until 1820.

Illinois' third Capitol at Vandalia. The first burned and the second was razed.



## **Removal Caused by Speculators**

The removal of the Capital from Kaskaskia to Vandalia grew out of a mania for speculation on the part of some of the State's early citizens who thought that money could be made by starting a land boom in a new location.

The origin of the name "Vandalia" is not known. For many years credence was given to the story that some wag managed to convince the founders that the spot had been inhabited by an extinct tribe of savages known as "Vandals." The most plausible suggested origin is that of Vandalia, Ohio. In 1775, forty-five years before the establishment of the new Illinois town, the Ohio Land Company's name had been changed to the Vandalia Land Company. From this sprang the name Vandalia, Ohio. Regardless of where the name originated the "city planners" proceeded to justify the story of vandalism by uprooting all the trees which might have shaded the public square and streets.

## **Kaskaskia Destroyed by River**

After Vandalia became the Capital in 1820, Kaskaskia deteriorated, gradually disappearing under the waters of the Mississippi River which lapped its shores. In 1881, the river went on one of its many rampages, changed its course, moving eastward and then southwest to find its old channel. When the turbulent water had subsided an island had been created and a considerable portion of the ancient capital city had been washed away. Each recurring spring flood encroached further upon the site until the last vestige of historic Kaskaskia slipped into the Mississippi.

On the remaining portion of the present island is a farming community of around 150 persons and the island still bears the name Kaskaskia, perhaps to perpetuate in memory the little Capital which lies beneath the muddy Mississippi.

## **Original Capitol at Vandalia**

A plain two story frame structure was erected in Vandalia. The lower floor was devoted to one room for the House of Representatives. A passage and stairway led to the second floor which consisted of two rooms, the larger for the Senate Chamber and the smaller for the Council of Revision. The Secretary of State, Auditor and Treasurer occupied rented offices detached from the Capitol.

The State's Archives, consisting of a small wagonload were removed from Kaskaskia to Vandalia by Sidney Breese, then clerk to the Secretary of State who later became a Supreme Court Justice and U. S. Senator. Breese was paid \$25.00 for his labor.

The first session of the Second General Assembly met in the first State-owned Capitol on December 4, 1820 and during its sitting passed an act making Vandalia the seat of government for the next twenty years.

On December 9, 1823 fire destroyed this first State-owned Capitol. During the summer of 1824 a new building was constructed of brick at a cost of \$15,000. Soon thereafter agitation was started for the removal of the Capital to a site nearer the geographical center of the State. This sentiment caused the General Assembly to pass an act in 1833 whereby the voters at the following general election could decide the location for a new Capital city.

The sites on which the vote was to be taken were Vandalia, Jacksonville, Springfield, Peoria, Alton, and the State's geographical center. Alton received the greatest number of votes but the margin was so small as to be inconclusive, and the vote was not announced officially as it would undoubtedly have been rejected by the next General Assembly. So the suggested removal from Vandalia was dropped until the 1836-37 session revived the question.

### **Lincoln suggests Springfield**

Matters then took a very different turn for the proposal was interesting a rising young lawyer known as Abraham Lincoln who represented Sangamon County. Lincoln was the leader for removal of the Capital of Illinois to Springfield, and he was backed by eight fellow members who with him were known as the Long Nine because their aggregate height was 54 feet.

Residents of Vandalia were determined that they should retain the Capital so in the summer of 1836, without authorization, and while the legislature was recessed, they tore down the old Capitol. In its stead they erected a State House costing 16,000. This gesture, however, was in vain for with the return of the General Assembly Lincoln was unsuccessful in having Springfield named as Illinois' new Capital.



The building above was the State's fifth Capitol. It was remodeled as shown below and served as Sangamon County Court House. Recently it was purchased by the State and razed. And at present it is being reconstructed as it originally appeared (above) and will become a Lincoln Shrine.





On February 25, 1837, the Assembly passed a bill providing that the Capital be moved from Vandalia to some place nearer the center of the State and three days later—February 28, 1837—Springfield was chosen as the new Capital City. Because of the Act of Assembly in 1820, Vandalia was to continue as the Capital until December 1, 1840, but on June 20, 1839, Governor Thomas Carlin issued a proclamation that all State records be removed to Springfield by July 4, 1839. However, the State Government did not actually function in Springfield until December, 1839.

The Eleventh General Assembly returned the Vandalia Capitol to the county of Fayette and the city of Vandalia, and the old State House still stands, though now again is State property.

The cornerstone of the State's fifth Capitol was laid at Springfield on July 4, 1837. After many delays the building finally was completed in 1853 at a total cost of \$260,000, double its original estimate.

The building occupied the center of the square nearly three acres in extent, and was constructed of cut stone brought from a quarry six miles away. The building took 15 years to complete but was considered one of the architectural wonders of the State.

### **Springfield Site of Famous Speech**

This building is rich in Lincoln associations. After Lincoln became a resident of Springfield in 1837 he was, of course, one of the regular frequenters of the State House. In addition to serving in the legislature he appeared and argued cases before the Supreme Court, located in the edifice, and made frequent use of the State and Supreme Court libraries. In this building he first took public issue with Douglas, here he made his famous "House divided against itself" speech, here were his headquarters during his 1860 campaign for the Presidency, and here finally his remains rested on May 4, 1865, before burial at Oak Ridge. This first Capitol in Springfield later became Sangamon County Court House. The State repurchased the edifice and it is being reconstructed in its original architecture and will become a Lincoln Shrine.

### **Present State House Planned in 1867**

Illinois continued to prosper and gain in population and soon it was apparent that a much larger



ILLINOIS  
STATE CAPITOL

Capitol would be needed. The enabling act was passed by the 25th General Assembly on February 24, 1867. This was the fifth of the buildings owned by the State and the one in use today.

The old Capitol was sold to Sangamon County for \$200,000. The deed was executed October 23, 1869, nearly seven years before the present Capitol was used.

Ground was broken for the present Capitol, March 11, 1868. Formal laying of the cornerstone took place October 5th of the same year. Still unfinished, the building was first occupied in 1876. Twenty-one years after the Legislature first authorized its construction, the building finally was completed. Originally construction costs were limited to \$3,000,000, but before completion expenditures amounted to more than \$4,500,000.

### **Capitol on Nine Acre Plot**

The present Capitol, situated on a nine acre plot, is in the form of a Latin Cross. The circular foundation, 92½ feet in diameter, upon which the vast dome rests, is 25½ feet below the grade line, set on solid rock. It is interesting to know that many feet below runs one of the richest veins of Illinois coal.

The walls supporting the dome are 17 feet thick from the foundation to the first story. They are built of granular magnesian limestone from quarries of Hancock County.

The outer walls of the superstructure are of Niagara limestone, that of the lower stories from the quarries of Joliet, and that of the upper stories from Lemont.

The extreme length of the building from north to south is 379 feet, and from east to west 268 feet. The height from the ground line to the top of the dome is 361 feet, and to the tip of the flagstaff 405 feet, the highest building in central Illinois. This led to the choice of the State House dome for the installation of the red beacon which glows through the night as a guidance for pilots. In 1949 the beacon was equipped with an electronic "eye" which turns the light on when visibility reaches a certain low—day or night. It used to operate on a clock device which turned the lights on in the evening and off in the morning, making no provision for foggy or overcast days.

## Guide to Illinois Capitol

OFFICES OF the present State Capitol, which is under the custody of the Secretary of State, are grouped on each floor about a rotunda which

risers to the great dome. On the first floor facing toward the east and in the center of the building is a bronze figure representing Illinois welcoming the world to the Columbian Exposition of 1893. This figure was in the Illinois building at the Exposition and was afterward presented to the State by the women of Illinois.



Radiating from this central figure are four corridors leading to various State offices. In the north corridor are the offices of the State Treasurer, Commissioner of Banks and the central offices of the Insurance Department.

In the south corridor are the offices of the Department of Registration and Education, the Secretary of State's office of Supplies, the Securities and Shipping Divisions.

In the west corridor is the General Office of the Department of Financial Institutions, a branch of the Treasurer's Office and the Auditor's mailing room.

On the second floor in the east corridor are the offices of the Governor and the Secretary of State. The Governor's reception room is located at the end of the east corridor.

A portrait of the late Congressman Henry T. Rainey of Carrollton, Ill., Speaker of the House of Representatives at Washington at the time of his death August 19, 1934, hangs on the wall beside the entrance to the Governor's Reception Room. The portrait is the work of Hans Schlereth. A painting of the late United States Senator James Hamilton Lewis by the eminent artist Louis Betts also hangs near the Governor's Reception Room on the second floor of the Capitol.



In the north corridor are the central offices of the Auditor, recently remodeled and totally modernized, the banking Division of the Treasurer and the central office of the Department of Finance. In the south corridor are the offices of the Secretary of State's Corporation Department. In the west wing are located offices of the general supervisors of the Secretary of State's office; the Secretary's Personnel, Index, Accounting Budget, and Purchasing Divisions along with the Superintendent of Buildings are in this corridor. Also in this wing are the Governor's Administrative Assistants.

### **House and Senate on Third Floor**

On the third floor of the Capitol are the chambers of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House being on the south and the Senate on the north side. Back of these two chambers are the offices of the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor, respective presiding officers of the House and Senate, also committee rooms and lounges. On the third floor is also found the Legislative Reference Bureau.

On the mezzanine are additional committee rooms and the Legislative Council.

The walls of the rotunda and the corridors are mosaic work in vari-colored marbles. The walls of the rotunda in the first and second stories and at the base of the dome's arches as well as the arches themselves are of solid stone faced with Bedford blue limestone and Missouri red granite. The grand stairway leading from the second to the third floor in the west wing of the building is constructed of various kinds of solid marble, as are also the columns, pilasters, arches rails, balusters and wainscoting.

The polished columns in the third story of the rotunda are of Missouri red granite with bases of blue granite and rich foliated Tuckahoe marble. The wainscoting of the corridors of vari-colored marbles, domestic and imported including white Italian, Alps green, Lisbon, Glen Falls, old Tennessee, and Concord, is artistically constructed and the work is highly esteemed for its beauty and durability.

### **Mural Decorations Used Frequently**

Mural decorations and statuary are used conspicuously throughout the Capitol. Most frequently inspected by visitors are the murals of the north



Senate Chambers.

House of Representatives.



and south corridors on the first floor. They represent events and scenes closely connected with the history of Illinois, such as old Fort Chartres on the Mississippi, Starved Rock, old Fort Dearborn, New Salem in Lincoln's time, General Grant taking command of the troops at Cairo during the Civil War, Marquette and Joliet in conference with Indians, and Governor Coles, liberating his slaves on his way to Illinois down the Ohio River. These murals were not executed by any well known artist but resulted from a contract with a decorating company years ago. While they are inaccurate their value lies in the fact that they are part of our storied past.

At the head of the first landing of the grand stairway is a huge painting representing Col. George Rogers Clark effecting a treaty with the Indians in 1778 at Fort Gage after he had captured it and forever ended British occupation. One of the figures in the foreground is supposed to represent the great pioneer Daniel Boone.

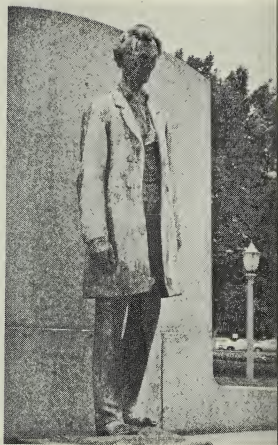
On the second floor in the east corridor, adjoining the Governor's and the Secretary of State's offices, are panels of feminine figures representing allegorically War, Peace, Art, and Literature. In the South Wing is the Hall of Governors.

In the niches about the second floor rotunda are statues of Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Governor John Wood (1860-61), David E. Shanahan and Richard J. Barr.

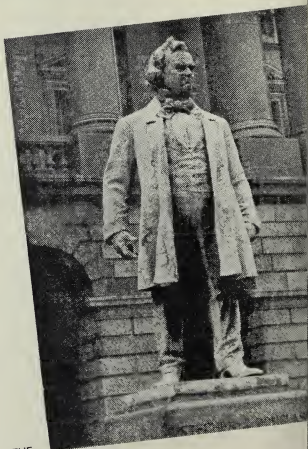
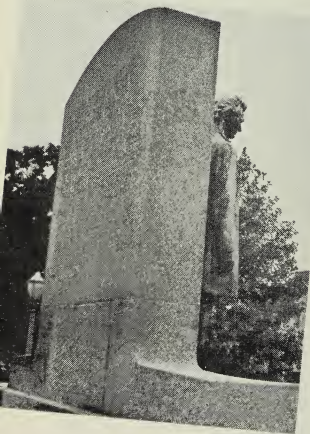
Mr. Shanahan served 42 years in the General Assembly, and was Speaker of the House five times. Mr. Barr served 48 consecutive years in the State Senate.

High upon the walls of the rotunda on pedestals near the base of the inner dome are heroic bronze casts of eight men prominent in the civil and military history of Illinois. These are: Ninian Edwards, governor by appointment and reappointment during the entire territorial period, and third governor of the State; Shadrach Bond, first governor; Edward Coles, second governor; Sidney Breese, justice of the Supreme Court and U. S. senator; Lyman Trumbull, U. S. senator; U. S. Grant, Commander of all the Union armies at the close of the Civil War and President of the United States; John A. Logan, Major General of Volunteers during the Civil War and afterwards U. S. senator; and William Ralls Morrison (1825-1909), congressman and soldier.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN STATUE



ABRAHAM LINCOLN STATUE



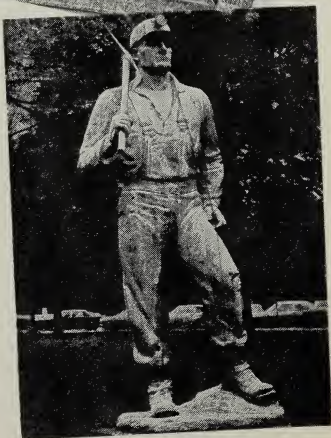
STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS STATUE



JOHN M. PALMER STATUE



RICHARD YATES STATUE



MEMORIAL TO COAL MINERS

PIERRE MENARD STATUE



Still above these statues and just at the base of the inner dome is a series of allegorical and historical plaster casts painted to have the appearance of bronze. One panel may be identified with certainty and this illustrates one of the Lincoln and Douglas debates. The remaining panels represent pioneer life in Illinois, but the identity of most of the figures remains questionable. Early accounts of the Capitol reveal the fact that the panels were not in accord with the author's order.

In the north corridor on the second floor is hung an oil painting of Lincoln and Douglas at an open air debate in Charleston. On the third floor in the south, north, and east alcoves, respectively, can be seen allegorical murals representing Industry, Commerce, and Agriculture.

In the House Chamber hang oil paintings of Lincoln and Douglas, while at the rear of the Speaker's rostrum in both the House and the Senate are paintings of George Washington.

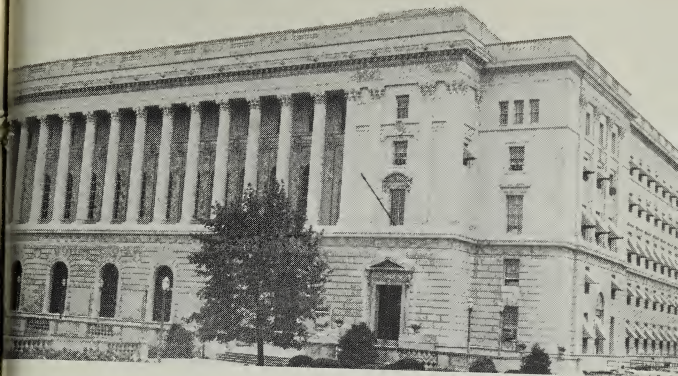
## The Centennial Building

**T**HE CENTENNIAL Building commemorates the hundredth anniversary of the admission of the State to the Union. The cornerstone was laid October 5, 1918, and the building completed in July 1923 at a cost of \$3,000,000. Recently completed is the \$6,500,000 addition converting the original L-shaped building into a square edifice. A major portion of the additional floor space is occupied by the Driver's License Division of the Secretary of State's office.

The northwest corner of the land on which the building stands is the former site of the home of Ninian Wirt Edwards, son of Gov. Ninian Edwards. Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd were married in his home and Mrs. Lincoln died there in 1882, seventeen years after the President's assassination.

The exterior of the Centennial Building is of limestone. Names of prominent Illinoisans are inscribed in a frieze near the top of the structure on all four sides.

Just inside the two main entrances is Memorial Hall in which the flags of Illinois regiments are on display. The interior walls are of Mankato stone while the ceiling is decorated in gold leaf. Missouri marble and Mankato stone are used in the floor



The Centennial Building.

pattern. In the first floor annex are various offices of the Secretary of State's Automobile Division.

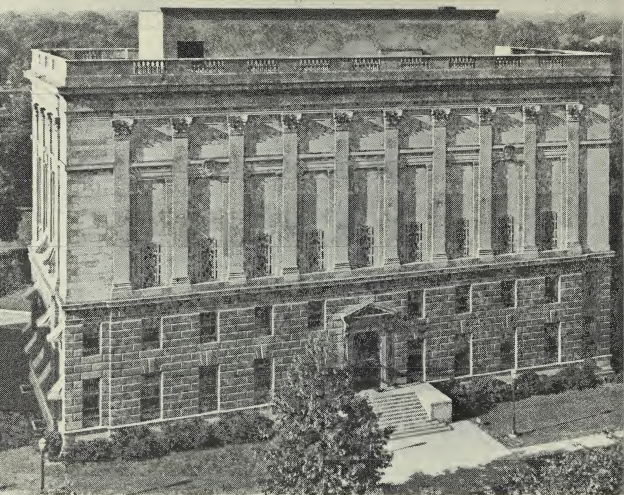
On the second floor are the administrative offices of the State Library and Automobile Division.

On the third floor are the public service departments of the State Library and the State Historical Library. Nearly 1,000,000 items, including books and bound periodicals, documents and pamphlets, pictures, recordings and current periodicals are housed in the libraries.

The Historical Library and the Lincoln Room at the east end of the third floor are filled with the most detailed information on the history of our state together with valuable relics of the martyred President. The Stern Civil War collection is now located in the foyer.

In the main building is an auditorium. In the basement are various offices including the childrens' section and the Collections Unit of the State Library which handle loans of books to schools and library units throughout the State. A section of the Automobile Division also is in the basement.

A new addition to the Centennial Building was recently completed. The former L-shaped structure was converted into a square building and retaining the same classic architecture adding more than 140,000 square feet for office space which is utilized by the Drivers License and Safety Responsibility Division and other departments of the Secretary of State's office.



## Archives Building

**W**EST OF the Centennial Building is the Archives Building housing the Archives-Records Management Division of the Secretary of State's office, completed in 1938 at a cost of \$820,000. Designed by the State Architect, the building matches the Centennial Building architecturally except for modification that had to be introduced because of its functional purposes.

This building was the third of its type in the United States, the two others being at Washington, D. C., and Annapolis, Md. The cornerstone was laid on March 30, 1936, and the building formally taken over by the Secretary of State in January, 1938. The structure is 153 feet long and 67 feet high.

### Provides Unusual Protection

The new building protects the State's valuable records from loss, tampering, and such physical hazards as fire, damp, excessive heat, and vermin. State records, here and elsewhere, have been destroyed in the past because of lack of such protection.

Present capacity is for 140,000 cubic feet of records. Because of this enormous mass the building is carried on caissons sunk 35 feet to bedrock. Like

the Centennial Building, it is constructed of solid masonry faced with Indiana limestone. Windows show on the first two floors only on the north, east and west fronts, while third floor windows are concealed behind ornamental stone grilles, which, with a row of pilasters, form the decorative design of the facade.

### **Fifteen Miles of Steel Cabinets**

There are no windows to any of the vaults with their 15 miles of steel filing cabinets. These vaults occupy the center rear and upper floors. The building is connected by tunnel to the Centennial Building and Capitol.

The rooms open to the public are the Lobby, Museum, Reference Room, and the public Catalog Room on the first floor; and another lobby, intended for exhibits, and the Archives Administrative office on the second floor. These public rooms are in the center, north, and west sides of the building. The public is not admitted to floors above the second.

Workrooms occupy the basement and part of the first, second and third floors, some of these being a photographic laboratory, and a special Receiving Room where incoming documents are cleaned and fumigated before being admitted to the upper floor vaults.

The public rooms show the Williamsburg influence in woodwork and colors. The first floor lobby has Joliet stone walls, a patterned blue and gray marble floor, and an ornate polychrome ceiling with a bronze coat. Facing the bronze and glass entrance is an alcove with a sculptured stone triple panel brilliantly colored by a new process. Above this mural is a gold inscription "Archives of the State of Illinois," and below another which reads "The Records of Human Achievement."

Bronze is used decoratively for stair rails, lighting fixtures, radiator enclosures, and elevator doors. The star motif is used frequently in floor insets, lighting fixtures, radiator covers, and door studs. The double elevator doors on the first floor symbolize "Asylum," "Charity," "Defense" and "Security," while those on the second floor symbolize "Legislature," "Unity," "Court," and "Equity."

To the right of the first floor lobby is a Museum decorated in Empire style with a white panelled wainscot and Williamsburg blue upper wall,



with gold and blue accents. Two sets of double doors lead into the Reference Library.

The Reference room and the first and second floor conference rooms are panelled from floor to ceiling in knotty pine of Georgian design, with appropriate brass and glass chandeliers and side wall lights. The furniture is mahogany in Chippendale style.

The Public Catalog Room has an ornate ceiling of ivory color trimmed with gold and red, and ivory walls. Built-in reference tables and light maple card cabinets make this one of the building's most striking rooms. The building also houses offices of the Records Management Division.



## Supreme Court Building

**T**HE BUILDING occupied by the two highest Illinois courts at the southeast corner of Second Street and Capitol Avenue, facing the State House, is regarded as a true rendition of classic architecture. The act authorizing its construction was passed in 1905, and the building dedicated in 1908. The appropriation for the building totalled \$500,000 and the structure was completed within this sum.

On the first floor are the offices of the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the Clerk of the Appellate Court, while the east half of this floor is occupied by the Attorney General.



The second floor is of monumental proportions and finished in dark mahogany. At its end is the State Law Library. Along the north front are Court Room and conference room of the Supreme Court. On the south sides is the Court Room of the Appellate Court.

The third floor is devoted to living quarters for the Supreme Court justices while in session.

The Supreme Court is the highest State court, which hears appeals from lower courts and may exercise original jurisdiction in cases relating to Revenue, Mandamus, prohibition and habeas corpus. The office of Chief Justice is held in turn by different members.

In general, however, the Supreme Court is a court of appeals either from the Appellate Court or directly from the Circuit court. Its decision is final except in instances where a State law may be shown to conflict with a Federal law.

## Illinois State Office Building

**G**ROUND WAS broken for the new State Office Building on February 15, 1954 and twenty months later the new ultra-modern H-shaped building was completed and occupancy began. Due to the time element, method of open competitive bidding and economies in construction costs, without deviating from original designs, the over-all cost of the building was \$11,500,000. Preliminary research work and architectural planning for the huge structure involved a monumental task. Before finally settling upon a basic design, the associate architects studied twelve different types of construction and visited the sites of state office buildings in other states in search of ideas for an improved design. The results of this careful research are apparent throughout the new structure. The present "H" type design finally was adopted and the building was erected on a site just west of the Capitol.

The building as completed is a well-balanced combination of efficient functional design, pleasing and dignified architectural lines, together with strictly modern fireproof material incorporated throughout the structure. The combined areas of all floor space (445,020 square feet) are the equivalent

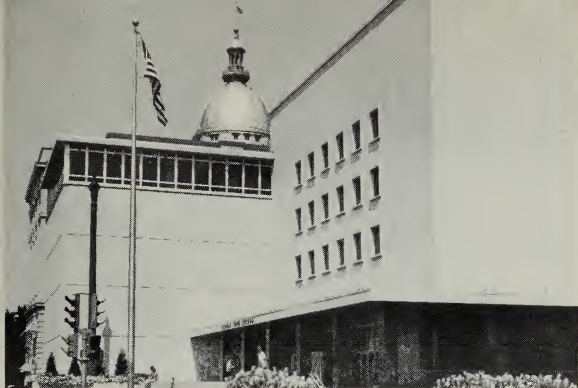


### State Office Building.

to slightly more than ten acres. An outstanding feature of the building is its 82 percent efficiency ratio, this means that 82 percent of the floor area is actual usable space with only 18 per cent taken up by elevators, storage, corridors, etc. Wings of the new office building are seven stories high, the center is eight stories. The maximum exterior dimensions are 381 by 252 feet.

Like other buildings in the Capitol group, a tunnel connects the building with the Capitol. Paul Powell as Secretary of State is Chief Custodian.

A cafeteria accommodating more than 400 persons and a postal sub-station are located in the edifice. The following departments and agencies are now located in the State Office Building: Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Conservation, Department of Labor, Department of Mines and Minerals, Department of Public Health, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Aid, Department of Public Works and Buildings, Department of Revenue, Illinois Commerce Commission, Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, Teachers Certification Board, First Aid Station, three offices of the Division of Departmental Reports, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Public Safety, Architecture and Engineering Division, Property Control Division of the Department of Finance, Department of General Services and the Secretary of State Custodian's Office.



## Illinois State Museum Building

**I**LLINOIS NOW has an official "show room" in which to present its art treasures, the story of its natural history, resources, and the intriguing history of prehistoric man. Visitors to the new museum building enter a convenient service lobby on the ground floor, where a check room, rest rooms, elevators, escalators, public telephones and information desk and a receptionist are readily available. The lobby affords direct access to both first floor exhibit halls.

Two large public elevators and an escalator are designed to move large numbers of visitors between floors without congestion or delay. The Museum displays are arranged to direct the visitor through the exhibits in an orderly manner, while permitting him a choice of display areas. Four large halls, two on the first floor and two on the second floor are dedicated to the exhibitions.

The building has, in addition to the more spacious exhibition areas equally important service areas behind the scenes. Curatorial offices and their related laboratories and shops are all located on the third floor as is a technical library for use of the staff. Offices are on the second floor along with the Art Gallery and the "Hall of Man." A delight to all visitors, is the totem pole . . . carved by Alaskan Indians and presented to the Illinois State Museum in September of 1945 and erected on the site in October of 1966. It is greatly noticed by visitors as they arrive and leave. Two million persons are served by the museum each year.



## Armory and Office Building

**N**ORTH OF the Capitol, on the same site where once stood the old Armory, destroyed by fire in 1934, stands the State Armory and Office Building. Its nucleus is a large auditorium and drill hall (seating capacity approximately 6,000), around which are grouped sundry offices, entrances to which are on the north and south ends.

On the Monroe Street side are offices of the Department of Public Safety; Boiler Inspection Division, Fire Prevention Division, Parole and Pardon Board, Parolees Supervision Division, Prisons Division and State Police Division. Also on this side are offices of the Auditor of Public Accounts consisting of; Data Processing, Key Punch Division, Payroll Division and Voucher Control Division. On the Adams Street side is office of The Adjutant General, Military and Naval Department and office of the Custodian of the Armory. The Department of Finance also has offices on the Adams Street side; the Accounting Division, Property Control Section, and Voucher Control Section; also the Dept. of General Services Printing & Purchasing Sections.

In the basement of Armory is the State Hq & Hq Det, Illinois National Guard, Bureau of Multi-graphing (Division of Printing), Paper Store Room, Building Maintenance Shops and storage areas for various State offices.

West of the Armory is the old "Power House" now occupied by the Illinois State Civil Defense Agency.





## The Governor's Mansion

**SITUATED ON** a beautifully landscaped knoll on Jackson between Fourth and Fifth Streets is an imposing brick structure—The Executive Mansion, official home of Illinois Governors since 1855.

From the time the Capital was moved to Springfield in 1839, until the present Mansion was completed in 1855, the Governors lived in a house on the northwest corner of Eighth and Capitol Avenue (then Market Street).

The first official act of the General Assembly looking towards the erection of the present Governor's Mansion was approved in 1853.

In November, 1855, Governor Joel A. Matteson and his family moved into the newly completed structure, thus becoming the first Governor to occupy the Mansion, which since then has been the home of Illinois Governors. After these 112 years, a bill was passed by the 75th General Assembly to remodel the present structure.

## Statues on Capitol Grounds

**S**IX DISTINGUISHED pieces of statuary dot the east front of the Capitol. Five represent Lincoln, Douglas, Menard, Yates, and Palmer, all of whose lives deserve close study by the sons and daughters of Illinois; the sixth commemorates the Illinois coal miner.

### Abraham Lincoln Statue

This monument to the Great Emancipator was dedicated October 5, 1918 on the same day as the laying of the cornerstone of the Centennial Building, the date being the hundredth anniversary of the first sitting of Illinois' First General Assembly. The sculpture is the work of Andrew O'Connor and was unveiled by Lord Charnwood, one of Lincoln's best known biographers. On the rear of the granite slab which forms a background for the statue is inscribed Lincoln's eloquent Farewell Address to Springfield on the occasion of his departure for Washington to serve his first term as U. S. President.

### Stephen A. Douglas Statue

This splendid likeness of the "Little Giant" was dedicated on Oct. 5, 1918 at the same time as the Lincoln statue. It cost \$25,000 and is the work of Gilbert P. Riswold, a pupil of Lorado Taft. From an artistic point of view it is one of the finest of the Capitol grounds monuments. The bronze seems almost alive in its virility. It shows Douglas in the later years of his life in the act of making one of his stirring addresses.

As an orator, lawyer, and politician Douglas in his short life became one of the most noted figures in Illinois history. He was born on April 23, 1813 at Brandon, Vermont, and came to Illinois in his early manhood to follow his legal profession. Elected state's attorney in 1835 he resigned to enter the legislature. He was then appointed Secretary of State in 1840 by Gov. Thomas Carlin but resigned in the following year when elected to the State Supreme Court, resigning this post in turn to enter Congress in 1843. He served two terms in the House and was thrice U. S. Senator for Illinois. Douglas died at 48 in Chicago on June 3, 1861 during his third term as Senator.

### **Pierre Menard Statue**

Pierre Menard, a native of Quebec, came to Vincennes in 1787 at the age of 20 and established himself as a dealer in furs and pelts. In 1791 he moved to Kaskaskia where he resided until his death in 1845. As he flourished in business he came to play an important part in the political life of the community. Almost universally beloved because of his honesty and generosity he came to be President of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Territory General Assemblies, and from 1818 to 1822 served as our first Lieutenant Governor.

Menard's statue was the gift of Charles Pierre Chouteau, of St. Louis, son of one of Menard's earliest business associates. John H. Mahoney, Indianapolis, was the artist who executed the work. The committee which chose the design consisted of E. B. Washburne, Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, Secretary of State Henry D. Dement, Ninian W. Edwards, and Joseph Gillespie. The statue, dedicated on June 10, 1888, was cast by the Hallowell Granite Co. of Hallowell, Maine, and is a good likeness as it was obtained from an oil painting belonging to a member of Menard's family living at St. Genevieve, Mo.

### **John M. Palmer Statue**

John McAuley Palmer, thirteenth governor of Illinois, was born in Kentucky of a line of distinguished Americans originally settled in Virginia in the early 1700's. In 1831 Palmer and his father left Kentucky for Illinois because of their strong anti-slavery principles, a cause which was largely responsible for the future governor's close friendship with Lincoln and Yates. Palmer had a distinguished career as a soldier, lawyer, and politician. During the Civil War he was active in recruiting regiments and rose to the rank of Major General. Besides being governor he served in the U.S. Senate and in 1896 was candidate of the gold Democrats for the Presidency. Palmer's bronze memorial is the work of Leonard Crunelle.

### **Richard Yates Statue**

The statue of Governor Richard Yates, Civil War Governor of Illinois, is the work of Albin Polasek, and was dedicated with that of John M. Palmer on October 16, 1923.

Gov. Yates was instrumental in winning Illinois' support of Lincoln for the Presidency, and must be given much of the credit for Illinois' enlistment of 259,147 men during the Civil War. After his governorship Yates served one term in the U. S. Senate.

### **Memorial to Coal Miners**

The bronze, seven-foot statue of a coal miner situated at the northeast corner of the Capitol grounds was dedicated October 16, 1964 to the memory of the more than 9,000 Illinois Mine Workers who have lost their lives in mine accidents since records were first kept in 1882. This statue is the only one of its kind on any capitol grounds in the United States.

The bronze is the work of Sculptor John Szaton of Tinley Park, a student of the renowned Lorado Taft. Representative Paul Powell, now Secretary of State, introduced a bill in the General Assembly appropriating \$15,000 for the creation of the Memorial which was signed into law by Governor Otto Kerner.

On the three-foot cube of granite supporting the statue are the following lines by Vachel Davis of Eldorado, United Mine Workers Journal artist and one of the sponsors of the bronze:

"True—he plays no grand stand role in life  
But his importance is vital, great and just;  
For without his toil in earth's cavern's deep  
Civilization would soon crumble into dust!"

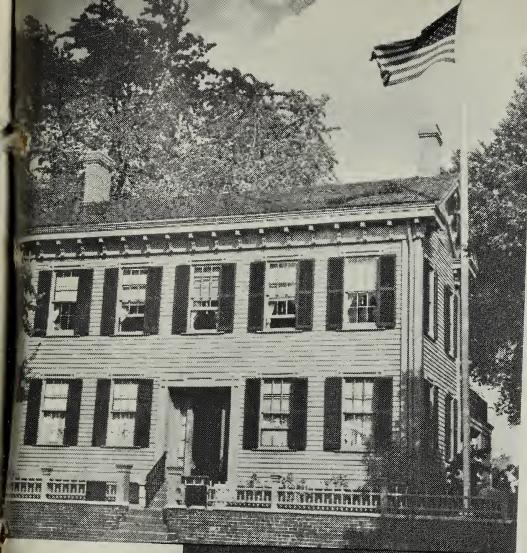
## **Lincoln's Home and Tomb**

**N**O VISIT to Springfield is complete without viewing Abraham Lincoln's Home and Tomb.

The only home which Abraham Lincoln ever owned is open to public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The house is at the corner of Eighth and Jackson streets. (See map on back of booklet.)

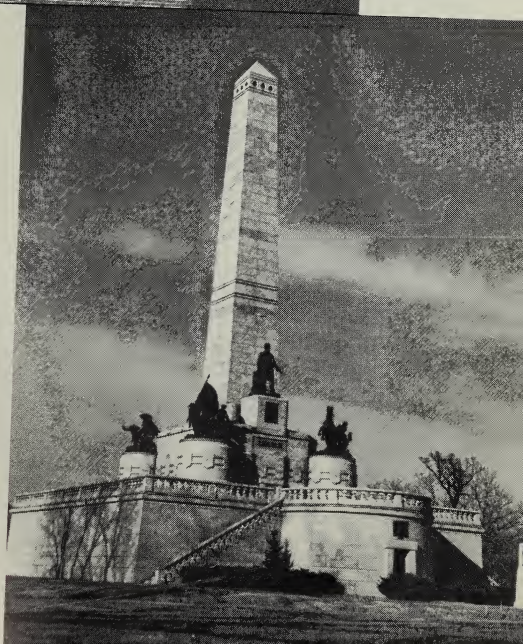
The Tomb is located in Oak Ridge Cemetery about two miles north of the Capitol.





Lincoln's  
Home in  
Springfield.

Lincoln's Tomb  
in Springfield.













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